

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
4/22/66

The University Senate met in Special Session at 2:20 p.m., April 22, 1966, President Elliott presiding.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed.

With unanimous consent, the Senate agreed to consider as the first item on the agenda the Report of the Nominating Committee to present a slate of nominees for the Executive Committee in the next session. Professor Merriman, Chairman, presented the following unanimously-agreed-upon slate on behalf of his Committee:

Frank N. Miller, Jr.	(Medicine)
David J. Sharpe	(Law)
Edwin L. Stevens	(Speech)
Carol R. St. Cyr	(Education)
Reuben E. Wood, Chairman	(Chemistry)

No further nominations having been offered from the floor, Professor Kraus moved unanimous approval of the proposed slate, and it was so ordered.

Professor Kraus, Chairman of the Educational Policy Committee, seconded by Professor Stevens, then read the first resolution of his committee and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION OF AN HONORS PROGRAM IN THE LOWER DIVISION OF
COLUMBIAN COLLEGE (65/18)

The Senate commends the University for giving serious consideration to the speedy development of an experimental Honors Program for Freshmen and Sophomores as an initial step for a broader plan on the upper level. At the same time it is urged that no such plan be launched without adequate preparation and that the closest attention be given to the need for appropriate staffing and its implications in view of the current limitations upon the recruitment of full-time faculty. It is also recommended that after its first year of operation such a plan should be carefully reviewed.

Be it resolved that the Senate discuss this proposal in terms of the general policy involved and signify its general support of such a program.

After general discussion and remarks to the point by Professors Brewer, Nimer and dePian, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The second resolution of this Committee was moved by Professor Kraus, seconded by Professor Finan:

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE INTRODUCTION OF A READING PERIOD
FOR UNDERGRADUATE COURSES (#65/19)

In view of the routine five course load bearing down on students, the Senate proposes that prompt and concrete consideration be given by the University to the initiation of a reading period for undergraduate courses. This should be done on an experimental basis for a two year period, after which continuation should depend on the evaluation of its results by an appropriate committee. In establishing such a Reading Period, the recommendations of the Finan Report should be used as a point of departure.

Be it resolved that the Senate recommend the adoption of such a plan to the several divisions of the University concerned with undergraduate instruction.

Following discussion of this matter and remarks to the question by Professors Yakobson, Brewer, Mr. Ruth and Professors Merriman and Finan, this resolution was unanimously adopted.

The Resolutions of the Student Relationships Committee were then presented in turn as follows:

The first resolution was moved by Professor Yakobson, seconded by Professor Stevens:

A RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE PRESENT PROCEDURES OF
ADVISING DEPARTMENTAL MAJORS (65/20)

Whereas the Committee on Student-Faculty Relations deems that present systems of advising departmental majors can be hereby improved

Be it resolved by the University Senate of the George-Washington University that the University Senate recommends

1. that each department and major field of study have a meeting of advisors and advisees at the beginning of each term at an appropriate time during each term, and
2. that this resolution, ~~if approved~~, be implemented by the deans of the various schools of the University.

After general discussion and remarks to the point by Professors Heller, St. Cyr, Reesing, Nash, Nimer, Arkilic, Brewer, and Weston, Professor Weston, seconded by Professor Nash, moved that the resolution be amended as shown above and it was so ordered. The Resolution then carried unanimously as amended.

The second resolution was moved by Professor Yakobson, seconded by Professor Nimer:

A RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE STANDARDS OF
DRESS WITHIN THE CLASSROOM (65/21)

Whereas the Committee on Student-Faculty Relations believes that individual faculty members possess discretionary authority to maintain proper standards of dress within their respective classrooms,

Be it resolved by the University Senate of The George Washington University

that members of the faculty are hereby reminded ~~that they~~ have the privilege of removing from class students who are wearing distracting or disturbing dress.

After general discussion and a suggestion by Professor Heller that the words in the resolving clause, "are hereby reminded that they" be stricken, and Mrs. Yakobson's agreement on behalf of the Committee to such an amendment, the Resolution carried unanimously as amended.

The third resolution was moved by Professor Yakobson, seconded by Professor Stevens:

Whereas the Senate Committee on Student-Faculty Relations has in practice found the members of the Student-Faculty Liaison Committee appointed by the Student Council to be responsible and responsive two-way channels of communications with the student body, and

Whereas these two committees do in practice hold joint meetings on most matters of common interest, and

Whereas such joint meetings have engendered many useful results for the University community, and

Whereas the members of the Senate Committee on Student-Faculty Relations deem it both equitable and useful to grant a vote to members of the Student-Faculty Liaison Committee participating in joint meetings,

Be it resolved by the University Senate of The George Washington University

that members of the Student-Faculty Liaison Committee participating in joint meetings with the Senate Committee on Student-Faculty Relations shall hereafter be permitted to vote on matters presented for a vote at such meetings.

After general discussion and remarks to the question by Professors Heller, dePian, Sharpe and Dr. Alpert, upon the advice of the Parliamentarian, Professor Park, the resolution was ruled contrary to the Faculty Organization Plan *

of The George Washington University, and therefore out-of-order. Professor Sharpe, Chairman of the Special Committee on By-Laws, stated his view that inasmuch as the Faculty Organization Plan was a document which had been entrusted to the University faculty by the Board of Trustees, it was the duty of the Senate to implement its provisions. He further stated that the sense of the Senate was that the matter was an "acute" one, and were it in order to consider the resolution, he felt sure the Senate would be in favor of it by a strong affirmative vote.

President Elliott recommended that the reports, without resolutions, scheduled for presentation at this meeting should be accepted by the Senate in the interest of conserving time, and reviewed later, and it was so agreed. President Elliott further recommended that the Chairmen of such committees might wish to submit a special report to the new session of the Senate if there were pressing matters to be presented.

The President then announced the selection of Dr. Harold Bright to succeed Vice President John Anthony Brown as Vice President and Dean of Faculties. Dr. Elliott stated that he had been especially happy to nominate Dr. Bright for appointment with the advice and consent of the University Senate's Executive Committee to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, because of Dr. Bright's familiarity with the academic programs of the institution.

Professor Stevens thanked the Committees for submitting their annual reports. He greeted the new members on behalf of the Senate and asked all members of the Senate to submit as quickly as possible their preferences for committee assignments in the next session.

* As amended at May 13, 1966 meeting of the Senate

Professor Heller moved that the Senate go on record as welcoming Dr. Bright as the new Vice President and Dean of Faculties of The George Washington University and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Frederick R. Houser
Secretary